GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2993
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2004
REDUCTION IN RICE YIELDS
Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the recent findings of International Rice Research Institute indicating that an increase in global warming can lead to reduction in rice yields;

(b) if so, the facts thereof with the reaction of the Government on the findings of the study;

(c) the impact of this phenomenon on Indian rice yields; and

(d) the corrective measures taken or likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This is a study done with limited data in Philippines, which indicates that night temperature has slightly gone up in last 15 years and this may have caused possibly some reduction in rice yields.

(c) There are no such clear indications on the impact of this phenomenon on Indian rice yields.

(d) A close watch is being kept on all these developments. The ICAR has initiated a network programme involving 15 research institutes and state agricultural universities to study the impact of climate change on agriculture and to devise strategies to mitigate such adverse impact.